

# Denmark Community Rowing Association

Building St Ayles Skiffs and establishing community rowing



Dave Cliff, President

# Albany Maritime Foundation Presentation

16 November 2023

Purpose of the presentation:

## Support of the AMF proposal to build St Ayles Skiffs

- Introduction to the concept of Community Rowing using St Ayles Skiffs
- The skiff building project
- An outline of Denmark's timeline, budget
- Rowing
- Benefits to the AMF and Albany



# Committee

The current committee:

- President: David Cliff
- Vice-President: Geoff Bowley
- Secretary: John Sampson
- General Committee Members: Clem Williams, Lesley Murphy, Adrian Valley, Ted Kirkbride, Veronica Miller



# Introduction to St Ayles Skiffs and Coastal Rowing



St Ayles Skiffs are 6.7m (22ft) five person coastal rowing boats

Denmark Rowers



# Introduction to St Ayles Skiffs and Coastal Rowing

Designed by Iain Oughtred in the shape of traditional Scandinavian craft, the plywood and epoxy kits provide community building projects which share skills and get individuals out rowing just for fun and fitness and sometimes competitively.



# Introduction to St Ayles Skiffs and Coastal Rowing

The Skiffs are built by community volunteers with a range of skills and tools



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# Introduction to St Ayles Skiffs and Coastal Rowing

Since 2010 there have been over 350 boats built around the world including 29 in Australia



<https://sascraa.org/index.php/skiff-registry/>

Tasmania - Franklin, Port Cygnet, Tarooma, Dover  
Victoria - Warrnambool, Mordialloc, Williamstown, Marlo, Corio Bay  
Western Australia - RFBYC, Augusta, Naval Cadet Association,  
Denmark and SoPYC  
South Australia - Goolwa  
NSW - Port Macquarie

**Denmark Rowers**



# Introduction to St Ayles Skiffs and Coastal Rowing

Denmark modeled our project on Augusta including fund raising, building facilities and involving those who wanted to row and not build.

Augusta community got behind their project and now regularly row their boats.

Open to all ages, genders and ability, the project has fostered community spirit and provides a resource that strengthens their community

<https://www.augustarowers.org.au>





# Rowing

## Social Rowing

Regular rowing for exercise and fun  
Joining in with events, festivals and regattas

## Competitive Rowing

Training, attending competitions  
Virtual global competitions using GPS devices

## Exploration Rowing, Raids

Discovering new waterways. Joining long  
distance raids, camping.



# Current Status of the Denmark Community Rowing Association

Since the inaugural General Meeting on 1st June 2021 the Association has:

- Incorporated as a not-for-profit Association
- Opened a bank account
- Raised over \$34,000
- Purchased the kits and other materials to build two St Ayles Skiffs
- Been generously leant a shed by Harry and Kay White
- Commenced building in February 2022
- Completed St John which was launched on 5th November 2022.
- Completed Nullaki which was launched on 26th January 2023



# Timeline for building 2 St Ayles Skiffs

Aug - Jan 2022

Fundraising

Mid Jan

Order kits

Late Feb

Begin building skiff 1

Early May

Begin building skiff 2

Early Nov

Launched skiff 1

End January 23

Launched skiff 2

## 9-12 Months



# Budget for building St Ayles Skiffs

Basic Kits from Stray Dog Boat Works plus wood costs roughly \$8,000 per boat

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Two Kits: \$16,000

Insurance, utilities, tools, consumables: \$3,000

Trailers: \$8,000

Launching trolley, covers, safety equipment: \$4,000

**TOTAL budget : \$31,000**



# Funding for the building project

Membership (2 yrs)	\$2,700	We now have 38 members
Donations	\$5,100	
Fundraising Events	\$7,050	
Sponsorship	\$14,550	
Grants	\$5,000	
Total	\$34,400	



# Amalgamation with the Riverside Club

- Denmark Rowers amalgamated with the Riverside Club
- This follows the pathway of many other St Ayles Skiff Clubs eg Augusta with Augusta Yacht Club
- Shared facilities, storage and launching
- Social and sporting hub for the community
- Sustainable infrastructure for the community



# Our operating budget

## EXPENDITURE

SASCRAA Membership	\$300
Insurance	\$800
Maintenance	\$1100
Sudary Items	\$800
<b>Total Running Costs</b>	<b>\$3000</b>

## INCOME

DCRA Membership Fee \$120	\$3000
Donations	\$400
Fund raising	\$1600
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$5000</b>



# Rowing Social Rowing



Denmark Rowers





# Rowing

## Competitive Rowing

### The Augusta Regatta

### 5 km virtual challenge



Trip summary

Friday morning trip  
Fri 21 Apr 2023 • cliffgeo

DISTANCE	AVG SPEED	TOP SPEED
5 KM	5.8 KM/H	7.1 KM/H
TRIP TIME	START	FINISH
55M 36s	9:14 AM	10:10 AM

Notes Share

Plan Prepare Go Weather You



# Community Rowing

Tawe Nunnagah 23



## St Ayles Skiff Community Rowing ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

**'SAVE THE DATES'**

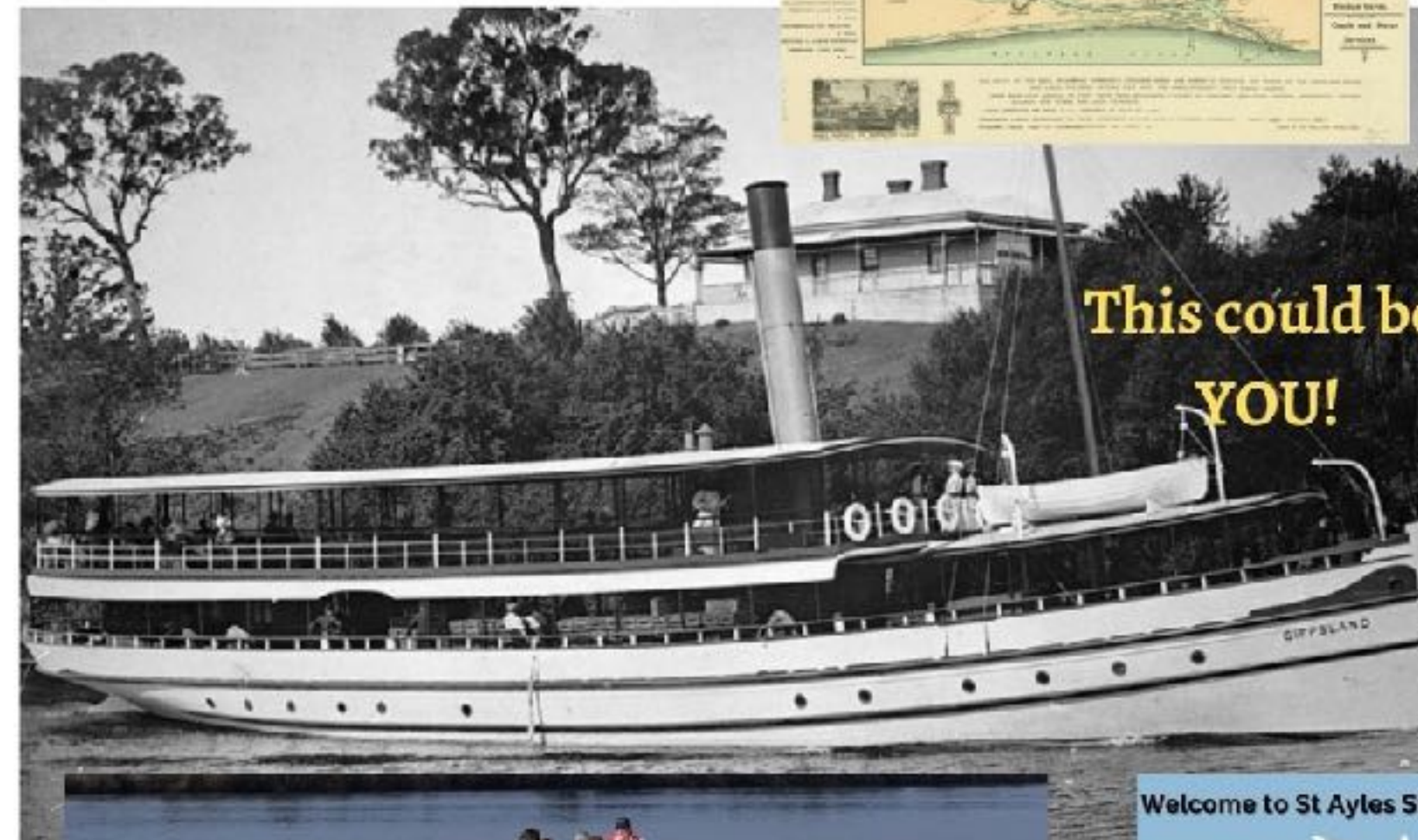
*The Steamers Run Raid*  
Raid - Tuesday 27th Feb - 1st March 2024 **2024**

A few days of rowing fun with like minded Skiff people.

Leading up to and Participating in

**'Paynesville Classic Boat Rally' 2nd & 3rd March**

Expressions of interest to:  
[staylesaustralia@gmail.com](mailto:staylesaustralia@gmail.com)



This could be  
**YOU!**



Rowing from Port of Sale to  
Lakes Entrance, via River and Lake.

Welcome to St Ayles Skiffs



## The Steamers Run Skiffie Worlds

[www.skiffieworlds2022.com](http://www.skiffieworlds2022.com)



Denmark Rowers



# Benefits to the AMF and the Albany Community

Building - re-vitalising boatbuilding in the AMF shed

- bringing together a diverse group of volunteers in a co-operative project
- learning new skills in woodworking and boatbuilding
- forging new friendships
- reducing mental health issues through having a common purpose
- nurturing creativeness and community cohesiveness.

Rowing - enhancing a happy, healthy, diverse and safe community

- encourages a vibrant lifestyle and fosters community spirit
- increases the communities appreciation and protection of our environment
- supports local businesses during future rowing regattas



Denmark Rowers



**Denmark Rowers hope that Albany will build 2 St Ayles skiffs to join in rowing these boats socially and competitively in the Great Southern**



A simple slogan sums up the impact of the St Ayles:

**“Communities build boats, boats build communities.”**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GZywer3b2Cg&t=136s>